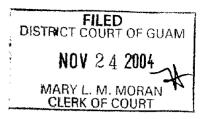
DOOLEY ROBERTS & FOWLER LLP

Suite 201, Orlean Pacific Plaza 865 South Marine Corps Drive

Tamuning, Guam 96913

Telephone No. (671) 646-1222

Facsimile No. (671) 646-1223



## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GUAM



## TERRITORY OF GUAM

JAY MERRILL, on his own behalf and on behalf of all other similarly situated voters desirous of casting a vote in favor of Proposal A at a fair and legal election,	) CIVIL CASE NO. CIV04-00046 ) )
Plaintiffs, vs.	OPPOSITION TO MOTION TO REMAND
The Guam Election Commission; Gerald A. Taitano, and in his capacity as the Executive Director of The Guam Election Commission, I Mina' Bente Siete Na Liheslaturan Guahan (The 27 <sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature); Felix P. Camacho, in his official capacity as the Governor Of Guam.	
Defendants.	) )

Plaintiff Jay Merrill opposes the Guam Legislature's motion to remand this action to the Superior Court of Guam. First, the issue of who represents the Defendants is currently the subject of a pending motion. Second, this is an action seeking redress under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for local officials' interference with federal constitutional rights. The lawsuit was initially filed in the Superior Court of Guam under its concurrent §1983 jurisdiction only because there is presently no sitting Judge of the District Court of Guam, and because Plaintiff was desirous of speedy pre-election relief. Federal subject matter jurisdiction was always and is now available under this Court's federal question subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and pursuant to 42

U.S.C. § 1983. Now that the case is here in the District Court, and now that Plaintiff has filed a first

amended complaint, and now that Plaintiff has filed a motion for summary judgment, the case

should stay in this Court. There is just as much federal subject matter jurisdiction in this case as

there was the last time local officials engineered such an egregious infringement of federal

constitutional rights. See, Guam Soc'y of Obstetricians and Gynecologists v. Ada, 1992

U.S.App. LEXIS 13490 (9th Cir. 1992). Finally, if the motion to remand is granted, Plaintiff will

simply immediately file the same lawsuit and the same motion for summary judgment in this

Court. As such, granting the motion to remand would be a senseless waste of judicial resources.

For the foregoing reasons, and for those Plaintiff reserves the right to raise in the event

the court orders oral argument on the motion, Plaintiff opposes the Legislature's motion to

remand.

Respectfully submitted this day of November, 2004.

DOOLEY ROBERTS & FOWLER LLP

By:

THOMAS L. ROBERTS

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

F:\Documents\TLR (07.02)\C235 CFED\ Pleadings\District Court (Merrill)\C325 -Opposition to Motion to Remand

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, **THOMAS L. ROBERTS**, hereby declare that on November 2004, I caused a copy of Plaintiff Jay Merrill's Opposition to Motion to Remand to be served upon the following:

Cesar C. Cabot, Esq. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, BankPacific Building 825 South Marine Corps Drive Tamuning, Guam 96913

> Therese M. Terlaje, Esq. Post Office Box 864 Hagatna, Guam 96932

> Shannon J. Taitano, Esq. Office of the Governor Post Office Box 2674 Hagatna, Guam 96932

Calvo & Clark 655 South Marine Corps Drive Tamuning, Guam 96913

Office of the Attorney General Suite 2-200E, Guam Judicial Center 120 West O'Brien Drive Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dated this J// day of November 2004.